

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Prior to entry of this amendment, claims 1-8 are pending. By the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 4, 7 and 8 are amended and new claims 9 and 10 are added. No new matter is added by the amendments to claims 1, 4, 7 and 8 or new claims 9 and 10, as the subject matter thereof may be found in the specification as filed, for example, at p. 8, lines 9 and 10, and in original claims 2, 7 and 8.

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 2 and the allowance of claims 5 and 6.

Claims 1-10 are presented for further examination.

In the Office Action mailed May 12, 2004, claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 3 and 4 have been amended, and are believed to be definite. Thus, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,496,881 to Green et al. ("the Green et al. reference"), and claims 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Green et al. reference.

It is noted that claims 1, 4, 7 and 8 have been amended. To the extent that the rejections remain applicable to the claims currently pending, Applicants hereby traverse the rejections, as follows.

The Green et al. reference is directed to a multiprocessor computer and a method for disabling a particular processor thereof when the particular processor was designated to boot the computer and is unable to do so. In the Green et al. reference, the failed boot processor is disabled by eliminating the power supplied thereto. However, the power supplied to the remainder of the system is not interrupted and a remaining processor is designated to boot the computer in place of the failed processor. Thus, the multiprocessor computer of the Green et al. reference is able to function despite a failure in the boot processor.

Unlike the Green et al. reference, the subject application is directed to maintaining data integrity upon processor failure. Therefore, the present invention as recited in pending independent claims 1, 7, and 8, includes a stopping means which stops a power supply to the information processing apparatus, the game device, or the karaoke device, respectively, when the processor error is detected. Thus, damage to an internal or external memory device may be avoided when a processor error occurs, even if the processor error occurs due to removal of the memory device. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 7, and 8, and dependent claim 4, which depends indirectly from claim 1, are patentably distinct over the cited prior art reference and in condition for allowance.

In the outstanding Office Action, claim 2 was objected to as depending from a rejected base claim. However, claim 1, from which claim 2 depends, is believed to be in condition for allowance. Thus, claim 2 is believed to be allowable for at least the reasons claim 1 is allowable.

By this amendment, new claims 9 and 10 are added. New claims 9 and 10 include the allowable subject matter of original claim 2, and the subject matter of original claims 7 and 8. Therefore, claims 9 and 10 are believed to be patentably distinct over the cited prior art reference and in condition for allowance.

The indication that claims 5 and 6 are allowed is gratefully acknowledged. It is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

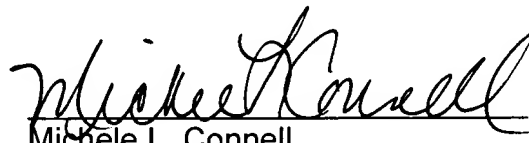
CONCLUSION

Since the cited prior art reference neither anticipates nor renders obvious the subject invention as presently claimed, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-10 are in condition for allowance, and a notice to such effect is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket No. 100341-00016.

Respectfully submitted,
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